IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Yuzhong SHEN, et al.   Attorney Docket Q62421

Appln. No.: Not yet assigned   Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Filed: January 8, 2001   Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: PROCESS, SERVICE COMPUTER, SWITCHING CENTER, TERMINALS AND
        PROGRAM MODULES FOR HANDLING INCOMING TELEPHONE CALLS DURING
        AN ONLINE DATA-NETWORK SESSION BLOCKING A SUBSCRIBER LINE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

      Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

      The specification is changed as follows:

      Page 1, after the title, insert the heading --**Background of the Invention**--.

          please delete the first full paragraph, and replace it with the following new
paragraph:

          The present invention relates to a process [according to the preamble to Claim
1]for handling incoming telephone calls for a subscriber line of a telecommunications
network during an online data-network session blocking the subscriber line and also to a
service computer [according to the preamble to Claim 10 for said process], a switching
centre [according to the preamble to Claim 11 for said process], a terminal [according to
the preamble to Claim 12 for said process, a terminal according to the preamble to Claim
13 for said process, an access-data-sending program module according to the preamble to

Claim 14] and a program module [according to the preamble to Claim 15] <u>for said process.</u>

Page 2, line 26 (according to the line numbering), insert the heading --**Summary of the Invention**--.

paragraph beginning at line 34, please amend as follows:

This object is achieved by a process [according to the technical teaching of Claim 1] <u>for handling incoming telephone calls for a subscriber line of a telecommunications network while an online data-network session is blocking the subscriber line,</u> [and also] by a service computer [according to the technical teaching of Claim 10], a switching centre [according to the technical teaching of Claim 11], a terminal [according to the technical teaching of Claim 12, a terminal according to the technical teaching of Claim 13, an access-data-sending program module according to the technical teaching of Claim 14] and a program module [according to the technical teaching of Claim 15] <u>for use in the process, all as more fully described below and claimed hereafter.</u> [Further advantageous configurations of the invention can be inferred from the dependent claims and the specification.]

Page 6, line 6, insert the heading --**Brief Description of the Drawings**--.

line 26, insert the heading --**Detailed Description of the Invention**--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A process for handling incoming telephone calls for a subscriber line [(VA1)] of a telecommunications network [(PSTN) during] <u>while</u> an online data-network session <u>is</u> blocking the subscriber line [(VA1)], [involving the following steps] <u>wherein</u> a terminal [(TERA)] sets up a connection [(VA11, VA1, VPOP1)] to an access device [(POP)] of an online data network [(INT)] via the subscriber line [(VA1)], <u>and</u> the access device [(POP)] sends

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current access data to the terminal [(TERA), **characterised by]** the process comprising the [following further] steps of:

the terminal [(TERA) signals] signalling the current access data to a service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] of the telecommunications network,

a switching centre [(SW1)] of the telecommunications network [signals] signalling to the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] the fact that an incoming call destined for the subscriber line [(VA1)] is waiting, and

the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] [supplies] supplying at least one predetermined service for the purpose of processing the incoming call.

2. (Amended) [Process] A process according to Claim 1, characterised in that by way of a predetermined service the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] sends a message to the terminal [(TERA)] in which attention is drawn to the incoming call.

3. (Amended) [Process] A process according to Claim 1, characterised in that by way of a predetermined service the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] forwards the incoming call to an alternative destination [(TELA2)].

4. (Amended) [Process] A process according to Claim 1, characterised in that by way of a predetermined service the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] forwards the incoming call to the terminal [(TERA)] via the online data network.

5. (Amended) [Process] A process according to Claim 1, characterised in that by way of a predetermined service the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] instructs one of the switching centre [(SW1)] [or] and the terminal [(TERA)] to break off or to interrupt the online data-network session blocking the subscriber line [(VA1)] and in that the switching centre [(SW1)] signals the incoming call on the subscriber line [(VA1)].

6. (Amended) [Process] A process according to Claim 1, characterised in that:

by way of a predetermined service the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] sends a selection menu to the terminal [(TERA)], by means of which a selection of possible follow-up services for the purpose of processing the incoming call is offered,

[in that] the terminal [(TERA)] ascertains a selection that has been made by an operator in the selection menu,

[in that] the terminal [(TERA)] sends the selection to the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)], and

[in that] the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] supplies the follow-up service defined in the selection.

7. (Amended) [Process] A process according to Claim 1, characterised in that the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] sends an instruction to the switching centre [(SW1)] to signal to the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] the fact that an incoming call destined for the subscriber line [(VA1)] is waiting if the terminal [(TERA)] has set up the connection [(VA11, VA1, VPOP) [blocking the subscriber line (VA1)] to the access device [(POP)] of the online data network [(INT)] via the subscriber line [(VA1)].

8. (Amended) [Process] A process according to Claim 1, characterised in that the switching centre [(SW1)] signals to the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] a clear-down of the connection [(VA11, VA1, VPOP)] blocking the subscriber line [(VA1) of the terminal (TERA) to the access device (POP) of the online data network (INT) via the subscriber line (VA1)].

9. (Amended) [Process] A process according to Claim 1, characterised in that when a call comes in that is directed to a special call number which has been set up in the switching centre [(SW1)], the switching centre [(SW1)] signals to the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] the fact that an incoming call destined for the subscriber line [(VA1)] is waiting.

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10. (Amended) A service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] for handling incoming telephone calls for a subscriber line [(VA1)] of a telecommunications network [(PSTN) during] while an online data-network session of a terminal [(TERA)] is blocking the subscriber line [(VA1)], **characterised in that** the service computer [(SCP, GPTM) exhibits] comprises:

a receiver [receiving means (TRSC, CPUSC, CPUGP, IGP) which are] configured in such a way that the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] can receive access data sent from the terminal [(TERA)] which the terminal [(TERA)] has received from an access device [(POP)] of an online data network [(INT)] in the course of the setting-up of a connection [(VA11, VA1, VPOP1)] to the online data network [(INT)] via the subscriber line [(VA1)], and further configured such that the service computer can receive a message from a switching centre of the telecommunicaitons network in which the switching centre signals to the service computer an incoming call destined for the subscriber line

[in that the service computer (SCP, GPTM)] exhibits] a memory [means (MEMSC, MEMGP) which are] configured in such a way that the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] can store the access data, and

[in that the receiving means [(TRSC, CPUSC, TRGP, CPUGP)] are moreover configured in such a way that the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] can receive a message from a switching centre [(SW1)] of the telecommunications network, in which the switching centre [(SW1)] signals an incoming call destined for the subscriber line [(VA1)] to the service computer [(SCP, GPTM), and in that the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] exhibits]

a service supply [supplying means (TRSC, MEMSC, CPUSC, TRGP, MEMGP, CPUGP) which are] configured in such a way that the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] can supply at least one predetermined service for the purpose of processing the incoming call with the aid of the access data.

11. (Amended) A switching centre [(SW1)] for handling incoming telephone calls for a subscriber line [(VA1)] of a telecommunications network [(PSTN) during] while an online data-

network session of a terminal [(TERA)] is blocking the subscriber line [(VA1)], said switching centre [(SW1) exhibiting receiving means (TRSW) which are] including a receiver configured in such a way that the switching centre [(SW1)] can receive and hold an incoming call destined for the subscriber line [(VA1)] while the subscriber line [(VA1)] is blocked by an online data-network session of the terminal [(TERA)], and [said switching device (SW1) exhibiting] recognition [means (TRSW, CPUSW) which are] apparatus configured in such a way that the switching centre [(SW1)] can recognise that the terminal [(TERA)] has set up a connection [(VA11, VA1, VPOP)] blocking the subscriber line [(VA1)], **characterised in that** the switching centre [(SW1) exhibits] further comprises:

[sending means (TRSW, CPUSW) which are] a transmitter configured in such a way that the switching centre can send a message to a service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] if an incoming call destined for the subscriber line [(VA1)] is waiting while the subscriber line [(VA1)] is blocked by an online data-network session of the terminal [(TERA)].

12. (Amended)   A terminal [(TERA)] for handling incoming telephone calls for a subscriber line [(VA1)] of a telecommunications network [(PSTN) during] while an online data-network session of the terminal [(TERA)] is blocking the subscriber line [(VA1)], **characterised in that** the terminal [(TERA) exhibits] comprises:

a [receiving means (TRTER) which are] receiver configured in such a way that the terminal [(TERA)] can receive current access data from an access device [(POP)] of an online data network [(INT)] which the access device [(POP)] sends to the terminal [(TERA)] in the course of the setting-up of a connection [(VA11, VA1, VPOP)] to the online data network [(INT)] via the subscriber line [(VA1)], and

[in that the terminal (TERA)] exhibits sending means (TRTER) which are] a transmitter configured in such a way that the terminal [(TERA)] can send the current access data to a service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] of the telecommunications network, which with the aid of the access data can supply at least one predetermined service for the purpose of processing an incoming call.

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13. (Amended)   A terminal [(TERA)] for handling incoming telephone calls for a subscriber line [(VA1)] of a telecommunications network [(PSTN) during] while an online data-network session of the terminal [(TERA)] is blocking the subscriber line [(VA1)], **characterised in that** the terminal [(TERA) exhibits] comprises:

[receiving means (TRTER) which are] a receiver configured in such a way that the terminal [(TERA)] can receive instructions from a service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] which, with a view to supplying at least one predetermined service for the purpose of processing the incoming call, the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] sends off to the terminal [(TERA)] with the aid of access data which the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] has obtained from the terminal [(TERA)] after a connection [(VA11, VA1, VPOP)] from the terminal [(TERA)] to the online data network [(INT)] has been set up via the subscriber line [(VA1)], and

[in that the terminal (TERA) exhibits executing means (CPUTR, MEMTR) which are] execution apparatus configured in such a way that the terminal [(TERA)] can execute the instructions.

14. (Amended)   An access-data-sending program module for a terminal [(TERA)] for handling incoming telephone calls for a subscriber line [(VA1)] of a telecommunications network [(PSTN) during] while an online data-network session of the terminal [(TERA)] is blocking the subscriber line [(VA1)], said program module containing program code which can be executed by a processor [(CPUTR)] in the terminal [(TERA)], **characterised in that** the program module [exhibits] comprises:

receiving [means which are configured in such a way that the program module can receive] code for receiving from an access device [(POP)] of an online data network [(INT)] current access data which the access device [(POP)] sends to the terminal [(TERA)] in the course of the setting-up of a connection [(VA11, VA1, VPOP)] to the online data network [(INT)] via the subscriber line [(VA1)], and

[in that the program module exhibits] sending [means which are configured in such a way that the program module can send] code for sending the current access data to a service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] of the telecommunications network, which with the aid of the access data can supply at least one predetermined service for the purpose of processing an incoming call.

15. (Amended)   A program module for a terminal [(TERA)] for handling incoming telephone calls for a subscriber line [(VA1)] of a telecommunications network [(PSTN) during] while an online data-network session of the terminal [(TERA)] is blocking the subscriber line [(VA1)], said program module containing program code which can be executed by a processor [(CPUTR)] in the terminal [(TERA)], **characterised in that** the program module [exhibits] comprises:

receiving [means which are configured in such a way that the program module can receive] code for receiving instructions from a service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] which the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] sends off to the terminal [(TERA)] with a view to supplying at least one predetermined service for the purpose of processing the incoming call with the aid of access data which the service computer [(SCP, GPTM)] has received from the terminal [(TERA)] after a connection [(VA11, VA1, VPOP)] from the terminal [(TERA)] to the online data network [(INT)] has been set up via the subscriber line [(VA1)], and

[in that the program module exhibits executing means which are configured in such a way that the program module can execute] execution code for executing the instructions.

16. (Amended) A memory [means with] storing an access-data-sending program module according to Claim 14.

17. (Amended)   A memory [means with] storing a program module according to Claim 15.
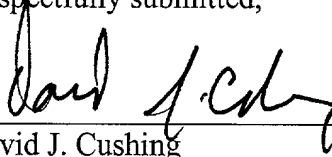
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IN THE ABSTRACT:

After the abstract delete "(Figure 1)".

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REMARKS

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Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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